

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Kindly cancel claim 4 and amend claims 6, 7 and 8 as follows:

**STATUS OF THE CLAIMS:**

1. (previously presented) An isolated nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a nucleic acid molecule comprising the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1; and

(b) a nucleic acid molecule comprising the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:3.

2. (previously presented) An isolated nucleic acid molecule which encodes a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2.

3. cancelled

4. cancelled

5. (cancelled)

6. (currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence which is complementary to the nucleotide sequence of the nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 or claim 2 ~~any one of claims 1, 2, or 4.~~

7. (currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 or claim 2 ~~any one of claims 1, 2, or 4~~ and a nucleotide sequence encoding a heterologous polypeptide.

8. (currently amended) A vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 or claim 2 ~~any one of claims 1, 2, or 4.~~

9. (previously presented) The vector of claim 8, which is an expression vector.

10. (previously presented) A host cell transfected with the expression vector of claim 9.

11. (previously presented) A method of producing a polypeptide comprising culturing the host cell of claim 10 in an appropriate culture medium to, thereby, produce the polypeptide.

12-43 (cancelled)